

WasteNet

Summer 2001



newsletter

Commercial Solid Waste and Recycling News

Sunnyvale Businesses Reducing Waste Models in Our Business Community

Telesensory

For over 30 years, Telesensory has been designing and manufacturing products for people who are visually impaired. The company's recycling program began 12 years ago and it has been developed to include the following:



Cardboard and pallets collected by Telesensory for recycling.

Recycling: Office paper, cardboard, pallets, polystyrene, beverage containers, metals, and batteries/hazardous waste are recycled.

Waste Reduction: Scrap electrical components for reuse and unwanted office supplies, furniture, and computers are donated to a variety of companies including the Resource Area for Teachers (RAFT).

Education: Telesensory encourages suggestions for recycling program improvements from their employees.

Results

The company estimates that it has **cut its trash volume by 50%** which translates into about **\$3,500 per year in savings!** The company was awarded a City of Sunnyvale Environmental Achievement Award for 2001.

Contact Mike Johnson, Facilities Supervisor at Telesensory, at 408-616-8700 x3286 for more information.

Silicon Valley WAVE

The Silicon Valley WAVE is a 724,589 square foot enclosed shopping center. There are currently 85 specialty stores, restaurants and services and two major department stores located within the center.



Robert Marcus (left), Facilities Director, and Kenneth W. McGee, General Manager, accepting 2001 Environmental Achievement Award for Waste Reduction and Recycling.

Just over a year ago, the WAVE implemented a cardboard recycling program that includes the following components:

Containers: 6 conveniently located cardboard drop-off bins were installed for merchants' use



Antonio Alvarez (right) and Jose Ledesma from the WAVE's maintenance department collect recyclable cardboard seven days a week.

Staffing: maintenance staff were assigned to collect and transport cardboard to the cardboard compactor on a daily basis

Education: Informational kick-off memo sent to all merchants, inclusion of cardboard recycling information in their Tenant Handbook and newsletter, and signs posted on the cardboard recycling bins

Results

Since beginning its recycling program in January 2000, the Silicon Valley WAVE has collected **more than 174 tons of cardboard for recycling.** The company was awarded a City of Sunnyvale Environmental Achievement Award for 2001.

Contact Margie Francis, Marketing Director, at 408-245-6585 x17 or Robert Marcus, Facilities Director, at 408-245-6585 x21 for more information.

Share your successful recycling program with us by calling the Commercial Recycling Program at 408-730-7484. ■

Computer Monitors and Televisions Affirmed to be Hazardous Waste

The California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) recently affirmed their regulations regarding the proper handling of equipment containing Cathode Ray Tubes (CRTs), such as **computer monitors and televisions.** Since CRTs contain approximately five to seven pounds of



lead as well as other hazardous constituents, CRTs are considered a hazardous waste when they are discarded. Therefore, businesses must handle them as such and can not dispose of equipment containing CRTs in their garbage container.

To prolong their useful life, working computer monitors and televisions can be sold or donated.

Nonfunctioning equipment can be recycled by an organization equipped and authorized to handle it. Businesses can visit www.ciwmb.ca.gov/electronics or call the Sunnyvale Recycling Program at 408-730-7262 to obtain a list of local CRT reuse and recycling companies. ■



Additional Materials Accepted at the SMaRT Station®

Businesses can now drop off plastic film, like shrink-wrap, and plastics #1-7 at the SMaRT Station for no additional charge. The SMaRT Station is located at 301 Carl Road in Sunnyvale

and also accepts materials such as scrap metal, mixed paper, glass, and aluminum from businesses at no additional charge. ■

Businesses Get Recycling Updates Electronically

In an effort to reduce paper waste and to relay information to Sunnyvale businesses in a timely manner, the City of Sunnyvale's Commercial Recycling Program would like to provide waste reduction and recycling information to businesses via e-mail.



These e-mails would include information such as buying recycled, recycling service providers and drop off facilities for recyclables, Business to Business Link meeting announcements, and any other business-relevant information.

If you would like to receive information via email, please send this request in an email to jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us. ■

Business Waste Reduction and Recycling Assistance

Would your company like assistance in identifying areas where your waste could be reduced and garbage costs cut? Would you like help optimizing an existing waste reduction program? We are available to visit your facility to conduct waste assessments,

employee training, or to help work out program details. We can provide cardboard desktop boxes for paper recycling (up to 200 per business) at no additional charge. Call 408-730-7484 for more information or to schedule an on-site meeting. ■

Environmental Achievement Award Winners

Congratulations to the following businesses for winning a City of Sunnyvale 2001 Environmental Achievement Award in the area of Waste Reduction & Recycling:

- Amdahl Corporation
- Fara's Hallmark Shop
- Savory & Sweet Inc.
- Silicon Valley WAVE
- Telesensory
- Resource Area For Teachers (RAFT)



In this issue of WasteNet and in future issues, their award-winning waste reduction and recycling programs will be highlighted. Information on the awardee's programs is also available at the City of Sunnyvale website, www.ci.sunnyvale.ca.us. ■

Solid Waste and Recycling Resources

Commercial Recycling Program

Business waste reduction, recycling, reuse, and buying recycled assistance — 408-730-7484
jbenabente@ci.sunnyvale.ca.us

Revenue Division

Commercial garbage service start/stop & billing questions — 408-730-7681

Small Business Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Hazardous waste drop off appointments & information — 408-299-7300 www.hhw.org

SMaRT Station®

Disposal/recycling drop-off center; 7 days a week, 8am-5pm — 408-752-8530

Specialty Solid Waste & Recycling

Commercial cardboard recycling service start/stop — 408-565-9900 x804